

March 16, 1918.

The Church of God Evangel

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 1:1.

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4.

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MARTYRDOM AND MARTYRS—PAST AND FUTURE

The Red Horse is Still on The Gallop, The Black Horse Loosed From The Stall, And The Pale Horse Pawing And Champing His Bits Because he Wants to go.

The Opening of The Fifth Seal Brings Its Cry of "How Long, O Lord?"

It seems there is a premium offered to those who suffer martyrdom. We may not have reached the place in our experience that we can realize this, but it is evident that many in ancient times got a glimpse of a special reward to those who suffered death by persecution.

This spirit in the saints of God today is steadily pulling them into some unknown depths. They sometimes think it is the gifts of the Spirit they need, and sometimes they think there are some revelations or visions that God wants to disclose to them.

The other day in our worship we were singing about following Jesus and rejoicing in our hearts because we were on the way, when suddenly it dawned upon my mind that possibly we do not know fully what it means to follow Him. I turned quickly to 1 Peter 2:21 and read, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."

This verse is all I read, and I suppose it made a deeper impression on me than any one else, but I will say that the Holy Spirit invited something to my heart at that moment that made the verse almost seem new to me although I had read it, I suppose, a thousand times before.

There are two points in this verse that are worthy of our notice now. These are days of vengeance. These are days of which the prophets have spoken. And they are days that call for God's people to get a little deeper into this verse. The two points are, Suffering, and Follow His steps. We were called to suffering, and He left an example for us to follow His steps.

He suffered and bore His suffering patiently. He was martyred and His martyrdom is the example that He set for us. "Leaving us an example," says Peter, "that ye should follow his steps." I am sure He would not mark out a way for us to follow that would not be the very best for us. But we may not have seen this best part yet. We have chosen that "good part" of sitting at His feet, like Mary, and enjoying His presence and fellowship, and listening to His sweet voice as He talks to us, but we may not have seen there is still a higher plain than this upon which we may find something "better."

I have read of a class of people that have had their eyes on something "better." They could have enjoyed the "good part," but by delving into spirituality a little deeper than others they

discovered the riches, fuller, sweeter, "better," and nothing else would satisfy them. "And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection." (Heb. 11:34.) Having once got their eyes on it, they were not satisfied without it.

This convinces me that they had a deeper insight into spiritual things than some of us have, for we are not so far along but what we naturally shrink from persecutions and suffering. Judging from the reading of this history they must have welcomed martyrdom. They must have seen in it some better thing than to die a natural death among friends and loved ones. At any rate they would not accept deliverance though it was offered them.

History records some striking sentences from the pen of Ignatius who flourished immediately following the apostles. It is said he was apprehended in Syria and taken to Rome and fed to wild beasts. On his way thither he wrote, "From Syria to Rome, I am contending with wild beasts by land and sea, by night and by day, being tied to ten leopards, the number of the military band, who, even when treated with kindness, only behave with greater ferocity. But in the midst of these iniquities, I am learning. Yet I am not justified on this account. May I be benefited by those beasts that are in readiness for me, which I also pray may be quickly found for me, which also I shall entice and flatter to devour me quickly, and not to be afraid of me as of some whom they did not touch. But, should they perchance be unwilling, I will force them. Pardon me; I know what advantage it will confer. Now I begin to be a disciple. Nothing, whether of things visible or invisible, excites my ambition, as long as I can gain Christ. Whether fire, or the cross, the assault of wild beasts, the tearing asunder of my bones, the breaking of my limbs, the bruising of my whole body, let the tortures of the devil all assail me, if I do but gain Christ Jesus."

The thing that seems so startling to me is that he saw such benefits awaiting him. He was so delighted with the prospects ahead, and the glories which awaited him that he declared that if the beasts seemed a little dilatory and would not hasten upon him he would entice them. He did not want them to be afraid of him and not slay him. And, listen! hear him say, "I know what advantage it will confer." This convinces me that he had a deeper insight into spiritual things than I have. I know what the Bible says, but I do not have the knowledge as he had it, so I know the full benefits of suffering martyrdom. Another thing that will bear

repetition is that this precious man said, "Now I begin to be a disciple." As if he regarded his past experience as hardly being a disciple, but since he got his mind set on martyrdom and the rewards of a martyr, he felt like he was now beginning to be a true disciple of Jesus.

The experience of Ignatius as described above is in harmony with the description at Heb. 11:35, and the teaching given by Peter when he said, "Even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps." This is surely reference to the glories of martyrdom. Called to suffer! Called to follow His steps! Not to take it as we often do when we say the Lord took care of us and delivered us from some persecutions.

An expression of Jesus may be of some worth just here: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into his glory?" (Luke 24:26.) This places a premium on suffering and the cross. Peter would have prevented this when he offered to defend Jesus. He was not going to allow His Lord slain. Jesus told Peter that he did not know God's good ways, but only the ways of men. (Mark 8:33.) At the judgment seat when Jesus was before Pilate He seems to have enticed Pilate, because He would not answer nor plead His cause. He was resigned and wanted to go on to the cross, by which means He was to meet death. He could have escaped, but He acted and talked in a way that encouraged Pilate to pass sentence of death upon Him rather than have Him released.

There have been many martyrs for the truth and there will be many more. We need to get into the depths of spirituality so we can welcome it rather than want to ward it off. I say this because I see Jesus, and many of the saints were possessed with just such an experience. They desired martyrdom. If it was good for them, then it must be equally as good for us. I want the best experience provided for me by my Savior. I want others to enjoy the same deep experience. We are living in the time of the end and I want to get the best out of it. The red horse, which indicates that peace is taken from the earth, is still on the gallop. His rider is still spurring him on. He has galloped in to more than twenty-five nations and is still making his rounds. The latest report shows that Japan has joined in with the allies to start the campaign in Siberia. The neutral tentions of Sweden are almost ready to snap. A few more gallops and Spain, Argentina, Brazil, and China, will be in as deep as the United States.

The war spirit is claiming more attention than religion. The red horse and his rider are busily engaged in racing from city to city, and from home to home. The Holy land is covered with a spirit of slaughter. The blood of Armenia is still

flowing. The leaders and war lords of every land are pushing on the war. This is the opening of the second seal, and it is wide open, too. No one can question this if they know their Bibles and the condition of the world today.

We can hardly say that the third seal is wide open yet, but it is certainly broken sufficient so that the black horse is loosed from his stall and his rider has already got the balances in his hands. It looks to me like the cry of "A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny" is already raised, when we cannot buy any flour without buying about three times as much corn meal.

All indications are that it will be but a short time till the fourth seal will be opened which will disclose the pale horse and his rider whose name is Death. Already I fancy I see him as he is loosed in his stall, pawing and champing his bits, because he wants to go. He is evidently getting ready for the race. During this race the Word says that power will be given this horse and his rider to kill one fourth of the earth's teeming millions with the "sword, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." Indeed this will be some destruction.

To my mind this does not look much like any abatement of the trouble that is now on the world very soon. We are just gradually edging up into "troubled times" sure enough. While the sword is slaying its millions, shortage of food will have its part and multitudes will die of starvation. In fact this is already on now more or less in the east. Death and wild beasts will join in the awful carnage, and the fury of hell will be poured out. This condition will exist when the pale horse is turned loose like the red one is now.

The opening of the fifth seal brings its cry of "How long, O Lord?" This is another scene. It is in another place remote from the one we have been watching. But this follows on quickly and it will claim the attention of the saints while the world will be occupied with war and destruction.

The answer to this question brings a thrill of something more than I know how to express. It makes me yearn in my heart for the experience I see in Ignatius. It makes me want the best that God has in store now, because I feel I will need it. Listen! The answer cometh! "Rest yet for a little season, until (your) fellow-servants also and (your) brethren are killed as (you) were." The cry will be raised by the souls of the martyrs of the first centuries. This plainly shows that many others are yet to be slain in martyrdom. Many of us who are now living had just as well get ready for it. An experience will be needed that will take away all fear, and give a holy boldness that will rejoice at the mention of fire, wild beasts, swords, or any other kind of persecutions. Yea, rather than try to escape will gladly walk into it. Like Ignatius, can hardly await the day of execution. Get so

deep in spirituality that the benefits derived from martyrdom will shine out brighter than the desires to escape.

Do not forget that a great crowd will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and will not suffer martyrdom, but while that is true there will be multitudes that will give their lives as martyrs for the truth.

"Walk in His steps," keeps ringing in my ears. I falter, I wonder, I wait a moment. I reflect. At this midnight hour as I write I find myself in "a strait betwixt two." I begin to see some of the blessedness of martyrdom, and I see the host of saints that will not die, and I can hardly make up my mind which crowd I want to join. I am almost ready to choose martyrdom, although I do not know that it is mine to choose in reality. But I am almost afraid I will miss something that Ignatius saw if I am not martyred for the Word of God and His glorious truth.

My soul is on fire. I feel the holy flame burning in my bosom. I want to be my best in these wonderful days. I want to make the Evangel red hot, yea white hot, and overflowing with the zeal of God and the glory of His power. I cannot go in person, but I am going with this article and others with my whole soul on fire for God. If I can't make the people hear my words I want them to feel them.

I sincerely believe the time is almost here when the pale horse will burst out of his stall and rush at full speed around the world creating havoc in his path, and the monster that he carries whose name is Death will tell his tale of woe over the earth in a greater measure than he did in Egypt the night Israel started for the promised land.

With peace gone from the earth now, and the hunger and famine staring the world in the face so much that they are already making food conservation laws, and the determined features of the war lords with their fists clinched and their teeth grinding, what else can we expect but the fulfillment of prophecy to hasten to its completion?

I have made up my mind to get ready for the worst and dig into the depths of spirituals so that what ever comes may not frighten me or swerve me from my duty as a herald of the eternal truth to a lost and dying world. Love to all. God bless you. Good night.

Keysville, Ga.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

We have conducted a meeting at Buffalo Creek, about three miles from Oconee, Ga. God wonderfully blessed the people and showed them the need of the baptism with the Holy Ghost. About eleven were saved, three of whom were filled with the Holy Ghost and four were sanctified. Praise God.

I left there and came home to the little church near Mathews, Ga. In the meeting on March 3, five received the Holy Ghost and three were saved. We had a wonderful time.

Pray for our little church. It is located about three miles from Mathews, Ga.

Your humble servant,
Ed. Johnson.

The Church of God Evangel

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When you renew your subscription please say "renewal." When you subscribe, please say "new subscriber."

Always write names and addresses PLAIN. If we fail to get your name or address right please notify us and we will take pleasure in making the correction.

We will do our best to keep from making mistakes, but if we make a mistake we will take pleasure in correcting it if you notify us.

We invite all the workers to send in reports of interest from the battle field. If nothing else a postal card telling where you are this week.

Help us make the Evangel a medium of information as well as a spiritual blessing.

Address all communications relating to the paper, and make all drafts, checks, express and postal orders payable to A. J. TOMLINSON, 2524 Gaut street, Cleveland, Tenn.

Watch the Evangel for something special next week.

Akron, Ohio reports a good revival in progress last week. We hope it still continues.

Order The Book of Martyrs and read what others have suffered for Christ's sake. It will be a blessing to you. Price post paid \$1.35.

It is time to order your Sunday school literature for next quarter. Try our new Junior quarterly for one class of children. The price is five cents each.

Brother Day of Flint, Michigan, one of our ministers laboring in that state, requests prayer for God to give him means to purchase a gospel tent for use in his evangelistic campaign this year.

The government is now insisting that all of our ministers preach a patriotic sermon on Sunday March 17 for the purpose of creating enthusiasm for the "Liberty Loan" campaign that is announced for the following Saturday. This we cannot do when we are not of the world any more. It is our purpose to persuade people to accept salvation instead of supporting something that will send millions of souls to hell. I do not know what will come next.

Last Sunday was a good day in Cleveland. The work is still spreading and growing. The Sunday schools were well attended, good interest was shown in missions, the Lord made the preaching a blessing, and the testimonies were full of victory and power. The shouts, the dancing of many, the running and leaping and praising God, all tell of spiritual life and victory. When the day's work was closed at a late hour in the night there was reported four saved and one baptized with the Holy Ghost.

I am more than pleased with the work that is being done by our friends in assisting us in spreading the Evangel. Many are sending in nice lists of subscriptions and they seem to be happy in their work. I cannot express my appreciation of this help, but I desire to thank every one. By this means we are getting the message in many new homes. Thank God! We are printing eight thousand sheets this week, and we feel sure it will take them all to supply the demand. This is the largest

number of one issue we have ever printed. Thanks to the untiring efforts of all. But we must not slack off in our efforts. It will take two thousand more to reach the ten thousand mark. This we must do, and let us try hard to reach it by the first of April. Another thing that pleases me is that so many of our people feel that the Evangel belongs to them as well as to the publisher. They frequently refer to it as "our paper." This is right, for it is not my paper, it belongs to the Church of God and I am only a servant of the Church in its management. Come on now beloved, help us boost the circulation and raise it to the ten thousand mark by the first of April. Then we will all feel good in saying "our paper" is finding its way into ten thousand homes every week.

Evangelists Notice.

Read this carefully and do not misunderstand. We now have the new certificate forms ready and according to the ruling of the last Assembly it will be necessary for all the Evangelists to have their credentials renewed.

DO NOT STOP READING YET.

To avoid such a rush at the central office we will call them in by sections. Please do not send until your section is called. The first section will include all west of the Mississippi river.

Be it known to all Evangelists of the Church of God now laboring west of the Mississippi river, that on and after the fifth day of February 1918, your old credentials are declared null and void, and, therefore, you are hereby authorized to send your old credentials to the principle office at Cleveland, Tenn., to have them replaced with new ones that are good for 1918.

SECOND SECTION.

The State of Alabama: Be it known to all Evangelists now laboring in the state of Alabama that on and after February 15 your old credentials are declared null and void and you are hereby authorized to send same to the head office at Cleveland, Tenn., for renewal.

THIRD SECTION.

La., Miss., and Georgia: Be it known to all the Evangelists, now laboring in Louisiana, Mississippi and Georgia, that on and after February 25 your old credentials are declared null and void and you are hereby authorized to send same to the head office at Cleveland, Tenn., for renewal.

FOURTH SECTION.

Fla., N. C., S. C. Be it known to all the Evangelists whose church membership is in Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina, that on and after March 25, 1918, your old credentials are declared null and void, and you are hereby authorized to send same to the head office at Cleveland, Tenn., for renewal.

These four sections are all we will call in at this time. The balance in any state or territory will be good until called for. Please do not misunderstand and send in before your time.

Notice.

Our dear Brother W. C. Hockett has returned to California. God bless him! W. M. Murphy is appointed overseer of the district over which he formerly had charge. If any of the churches in the district—Kinsers Tabernacle, Mineral Park, White Oak Mountain, Mt. Olive or Union Grove needs his assistance address him at Route 10, Cleveland, Tenn.

Mt. Vernon, Texas.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am a reader of the Evangel; it is a feast to my soul. I desire to add my testimony to the glory of God.

I was converted and joined the Baptist Church at about the age of twelve years. I lived an up and down life until I was about twenty-five years old. At that time the Holiness people came to Purley to hold a meeting. The first sermon I heard preached, I saw clearly in God's Word that I could be sanctified and have power to live above sin every day.

In about four days I made a complete consecration and the Lord wonderfully sanctified me. In a short time I was turned out of the church. I was not popular any more. I have been one of the despised few ever since.

About four years after this I joined the Nazarene Church thinking I might have better opportunity to work for the Lord; and I did for a time; the Lord truly blessed me in that church and I loved the people there and love them yet.

In about two years time the Lord saw that there were a few of His saints that would walk in all the light of His Truth, so He sent Brother L. O. Hall there to preach this wonderful doctrine of the baptism with the Holy Ghost. In that meeting I tarried until the Holy Ghost came into this temple and took full control, spoke through me in a language entirely unknown to me; He has been speaking at intervals ever since. Praise God for the abiding Comforter!

Soon after I received the Holy Ghost, the Nazarenes turned me out of their church and I have not belonged to any since. But the Lord has wonderfully blessed my soul and I have always had an opportunity to work for Him. I have had many trials and testings but I have always found His grace sufficient in every time of need.

When the Lord baptized me with the Holy Ghost I promised Him that I would trust Him alone for my healing. It has been seven years since I have taken any medicine. I have been sick several times but the Lord healed me. I was healed of chills about two years ago and have had none since.

I am the only one in this community that has the baptism with the Holy Ghost. Since I moved here we have been having prayer meeting when we could and several have embraced the faith. I am praying the Lord to send a good preacher to help us.

I want all the Evangel readers to pray for this community, and pray for me and my family.

Your sister in Christ,
 Mrs. Oma Day.

Report.

We have just closed a meeting at Ehren, Fla. The Lord gave us victory; at least twelve were saved, some sanctified and two received the Holy Ghost, also one reclaimed.

The power fell in an unusual manner at this place. After a few days of hard praying and straight preaching God began to break through. The altar was filled with seekers from beginning to end.

The power fell in the public school one morning; some of the children were so happy until they could not have any school until about noon.

The last Sunday night of the meeting the power fell in a special way. A young lady who had been seeking fell under the power while at the altar about

9:30 P. M. and remained under the power until about 10:00 A. M. the next day. She gave us a brief account of her vision which was wonderful.

We are now in a battle at Largo, Fla. There is good interest manifested. We hope to gain a victory here.

There are four of us, my sister—Mrs. Haddock—her husband and Brother Levi Campbell. We will go from here to St. Petersburg (D. V.).

Yours in the battle,
 Aaron A. Smith.

Newbern, Tenn.

Dear Evangel Readers:

I received the baptism with the Holy Ghost last October and have the evidence as in Acts 2: 4. As you very well know, I had to lay down the things of this world before the Holy Ghost would come in to dwell.

I want to tell you how the Master has heard and answered my prayer. Praise His dear name forever! In Feb. 1917, my oldest son who is in his nineteenth year joined the army and went with others to New York City for training. You children of God know how I felt. I began to pray as I never prayed before. I knew that the God in whom I was trusting had promised to do whatever I asked. Praise His name! So one day I was here in my room pleading with God in behalf of my child when the Spirit began speaking through me and the interpretation was given, "Alva will come home." This was spoken repeatedly. So I began to testify to the fact that God was going to send my son home for He had said so. People would look at me as if they knew I had lost my mind (He had enlisted for seven years), but I would tell them that they would soon see my child walking on the soil here.

A merchant told me that it was a help to me to feel that way, but that it was no easy matter to get out of the United States army at this present time.

But I held on to God and one day about sundown in walked my son looking better than when he went away, the very picture of health. He had an honorable discharge but had no idea himself why they sent him home. He only knows he was once a soldier but is now back where he can hear mamma pray. Praise the Lord forever!

Mothers, if you will live the life, that is, stay right where God wants you and obey Him in every little thing, He is going to answer your prayers. He will help you in every way. He will bring your children back to you from any place to where Satan has lured them. He will reform the bad boy and save him too, praise God! He will cause the daughter to stop in the moment of temptation and think of mother's prayers.

My heart is burdened for the people who are lost, the ones who are church members only and are walking after the flesh. They are to be pitied.

Please pray for the people here and pray that God will send a minister here and to Henderson county where we once lived, that the full gospel may be preached to the people.

Your sister in Christ,
 Mrs. J. L. Lyons.

Ready to Go.

You may put a notice in the Evangel stating that I am ready to preach, pray, sing and do altar work. I am willing to go any place if He goes with me.

Mrs. Annie W. Tucker,
 Catchings, Miss.

Hatfield, Ark.

Dear Evangel Family:

Though weak as I am, please allow me to tell you what our Lord has done for me.

About seven and one half months ago I was in bed, very low; some of my friends thought I would die. At times I hardly knew whether I was alive or not.

But one day something said to me, sweet and clear: "Quit that medicine, trust me and I will heal you." I told the folks that the Lord would heal me if I would quit medicine. Some one said: "It will never do for her to quit that medicine." I said: "I am going to quit. Husband, go after Mrs. Care" (one of our friends who believed in divine healing).

She came and began talking about the wonderful ways of God and praying too, I suppose. She asked me if I wanted to get up and my reply was "Yes." I got right up and am still living and more determined than ever to live for God.

That sweet voice is still ringing, saying, "Emma, there is something more than this for you."

Dear Evangel family, pray for me that the Lord may have His way with me and get glory out of my life and that I may get all He has in store for me.

Your unworthy sister,
 Mrs. G. L. Blake.

Bell Mills, Ala.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I want to praise God this morning for a full and free salvation. I am glad today still finds me saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. I mean to go through.

As St. Paul declared, I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to them that believe. I am one that believes. Praise God!

We had a meeting at Brother Brown's last night and the power of God fell.

Please pray for the little band at this place.

Your brother in Christ,
 Ellison Williamson.

Great Revival

Reported at Parkersburg W. Va. The writer of the report says:

We are in the midst of a great revival here. This is the fourth week. Fifteen have been filled with the Holy Ghost, some saved, some reclaimed and nine at the altar one of whom is a Mormon preacher.

Can't see any end to the meeting as there is a crowded house and many under conviction.

Ward, W. Va.

Dear Evangel Readers:

I want to sound a note of praise to the blessed Lord, for my trust is in Him and He is so good to those who love Him. I didn't know He was so precious in the time of trouble, but I find that He is ready to help us when we come to Him.

We didn't know what trouble was until death claimed our dear boy who was loved by everybody. I have hope of meeting the dear one gone before. The Holy Ghost still abides. I am ready and waiting for my blessed Savior.

I desire your prayers in behalf of my companion and myself that we shall stay humble at Jesus' feet.

Your sister in Jesus,
 L. V. Crowder.

Led of The Spirit of God

SAM. C. PERRY.

That His people may go right, God has given His Spirit to lead them. A man may be saved ever so good, and filled with wisdom and might, but he is not safe without the presence of the living, intelligent Spirit to lead him continually.

We should not be satisfied that we have occasional touches and down-pours of the Spirit's presence, but we need Him every moment to guide our thoughts, words and conduct.

The Word of God is the track over which we are to travel in the victorious life, but without the presence of the ever blessed Spirit, we will find it difficult to keep to the track.

But without any difficulty all may have the Spirit to lead them, for He hath said, "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom. 8:14.

Without the Spirit to lead us, how wretched is our failure! It does seem that man would see how far he comes short in his own strength. But few see it. They continue to plod away in the strength of the human. Nothing is of any value in His service unless it be done in His way. Our efforts fall to pieces unless He be in them. "Not I but Christ," says the apostle. The "I" must die. God cannot lead us much until then. Most of us are too big and wise to be led, we know too much within ourselves. Saint Paul said, "I was determined not to know anything among you save Jesus and him crucified." It takes a time to get us to where we see that Jesus Christ is our greatest need, He then can lead us where He wants us, not until then.

"Without me ye can do nothing," Jesus said. We may undertake to lead out with our works and ways, but things will go wrong, but when we fall in line with the Spirit of God and He opens up the way according to His Word, then everything moves on gloriously.

Saint Paul said, "If ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law." Gal. 5, 18. This suggests the idea that the Spirit does not compel, but when we become willing to follow, without any constraint, he carries us forward in the things God has for the faithful.

Such service as this cannot be given to the Lord until our own will is fully surrendered to God. In doing His service God does not want us to consult our feelings or wishes, but seek first of all His own will for us.

On a certain occasion some of the apostles had a mind to go to a certain place, "but the Spirit suffered them not." Acts 16, 7. It is a very easy matter to substitute human feelings, preferences and wishes for the leadings of the Spirit.

It is even a foreign thing to some to know the will of God in their life, but they fix up the thing to suit their own mind and away they go. My brethren, why should this be so? Is it not a fact that God has always witnessed by His Spirit to the commands given His people, and shown them that they should follow Him?

Yet we have seen some who professed to be Spirit-filled ministers of the gospel, who wanted one thing today, something different tomorrow, and were still unsettled the next day, as to what they should do. If such people as that are led of God they are not conscious of it.

They do not see Him, He is merely blessing them through His mercy, and He will carry them through in spite of themselves if, indeed, they get through at all.

"He will keep the feet of His saints." 1 Sam. 2, 9. God is going to take care of His own and bless and carry them through if they will give Him the chance. In spite of ignorance and stupidity God blesses and helps some of us right on.

We have been made to wonder sometimes that some, whose lives were far from perfect, could enjoy special seasons of grace and blessing, but we have decided that God sees their earnestness and meets their hearts, and that He does not set His seal upon their strange or peculiar views, but He just blesses them in spite of these things. We have a merciful heavenly Father indeed.

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord." Psalms 37, 23. There is no doubt but that God orders the ways of His servants many times when they are not specially seeking to Him for guidance. They are so fully yielded to Him and following Him so faithfully that the Spirit of God has free access and works continually in them to the glory of God.

Perhaps this is the normal life of the Spirit-filled Christian, that without special prayer or seeking God, He leads them along in the ordinary affairs of the day.

The thoughts, meditation, the conversation and the life in general give room for the operation of His presence and power to direct and lead.

Of course there are special turns in the life of every child of God when there is need of very careful seeking unto God for guidance, as some very important question or step is about to be settled, when there are difficulties to our knowing what is the leadings of God's Spirit. In such cases we may sometimes pray for days, or weeks, or even months or years, before we know exactly what is the mind of the Spirit.

But God has promised to lead us, and show us the way, so we need not fear if we have committed all to His care, and are following on to know the Lord with our whole heart. "Then shall we know if we follow on to know the Lord." Hos. 6:3.

The leading depends on our willingness to follow, no trouble to lead one who has given up all and wants to find the way. But if a man is so blinded that he cannot see that he is out of the way, there is hardly any use to try to lead him at all.

There are different ways in which God makes known His will to His servants; sometimes He illuminates and impresses certain passages of Scripture upon the mind, sometimes there are gentle but positive impressions upon the heart. Some seem to hear a small voice in the inner consciousness, revealing certain things. There are times when God answers through the providences about us, and opens the way He would have us go.

Sometimes God speaks through a vision or dream or in tongues with the interpretation. But we should not dictate to God how He is to lead us. Just keep the heart and life under His control, lovingly obeying Him in all things and look to Him to lead, and we shall not be disappointed. We shall see the way and be able to walk in it.

A Letter From A Soldier.

[The following is a letter from a young man who was converted after he joined the army and since he was baptized with the Holy Ghost he is so given up to Him that the army officers have concluded he is insane and he is now shut up in the army insane hospital—Ed.]

Dear Loved Ones:

Just a few lines to say that I am still well. I am feeling good, but I am sure I would feel better if I could go to meeting and be with you.

I am trusting God for deliverance and I know He has power to set me free. I believe He has a hand in this and some day I shall be delivered from the bondage I am now in and then I can give all my time to the work of the Lord and serve Him as I want to.

I am always glad to see the dear ones who are truly serving God. Last Monday evening Brother Scott and another brother came out to see me. I was truly glad to see them.

I am praising God for the way He keeps me healed. I never take a drop of medicine of any kind and I am in good health, too. The doctor asked me yesterday if I would take some and I told him that I would go to the Lord when I got sick and trust Him for my healing. He then said, "Are you sure? Don't you believe that I could give you medicine that would cure you? I told him that I knew he could do nothing that would cure me, that God gave me what I had and no man could take it away. The idea of their wanting to give a man medicine to cure him of his salvation and take away his love for the Lord! But we must not blame them for they don't know how it is. They are in darkness and there are lots of things that they don't know. But they may see lots of things when they receive the light.

The chaplain was up to see me yesterday and wanted me to get insured. I can take out \$10,000 insurance for \$6.60 per month and if I get crippled or injured for life I will draw \$57.60 per month until I receive \$10,000. In case of my death some of my folks draw the same. But I don't believe I shall take any.

Well, I do hope you have good meetings all the time now. I am praying for the meetings and for all of you who are faithful and true.

I really believe Christ is coming soon and we all want to be ready for His coming. So let us get busy and do all we can for Him. That is my heart's desire. I want to be set free so I can work for Him and help spread the glad tidings of salvation. I want to spread the sound around the earth, from the rising to the setting of the sun. I want others to know about Jesus and His love. I know I have salvation, but am not selfish about it; there is plenty to go around. That is why I am anxious to tell others and see them get filled. Praise the Lord!

I believe God is going to do some great things for me and I mean to keep right on praising Him and trusting Him; He is going to bless me, too. I can feel it.

I want to do everything I can for Him. I remember that Christ said: "Preach the gospel to every creature," and I want to be one of the number who can help tell it. God wants us to work while we have the chance; He says the night is coming when no man can work, so we should be up and doing with willing

minds and pure hearts. Beloved, God has really put it into my heart to serve Him. Pray for me that I may keep close to Him and that I may always keep humble and true to Him. I praise Him, for setting my feet on this highway and I intend to keep pressing on to those glorious mansions above.

Let us keep our eyes on Him and never look back. No, we must never stop nor turn aside; we must keep traveling on and some day we shall meet Him face to face. I really desire to see Him in all His glory descending from the sky. Praise His dear name forever! Let us keep close to His side and when He comes we shall be like Him. He will come in a short while. Even so, come, Lord Jesus—the First and the Last, the Almighty, the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and Morning Star, the Fairest among ten thousand and altogether lovely. None of those names are too precious to call Him.

Pray for me. My sincere wishes and earnest prayers are for all.

Yours and His,
O. C. Hilbun.

Keysville, Ga.

Dear Evangel:

I am glad I have victory this morning. I feel just like going on in this good way.

We had a wonderfully good meeting yesterday. I was told by several of the saints that five received the Holy Ghost and one other was saved. We had to leave before the night service as we live so far from the church. The afternoon service continued until 7:30.

Brother Ed Johnson is pastor of the church and he is faithfully working for lost souls. I am helping him all I can.

We go out of town also to hold meetings. He takes one territory and I the other. He and some of the saints have just returned from a meeting at Oconee, Ga., where they said five received the Holy Ghost. Thank God. The work is moving on nicely.

Please pray for me.

Your humble sister,
Fannie Duncan.

Report.

Dear Editor and All the Brethren and Sisters in Christ:

We are still praising God for victory over the enemy. After a little more than four weeks battle with the enemy at this place the meeting closed with great victory. Quite a number were saved and sanctified and sixteen received the Holy Ghost. Among this number were two preachers who received wonderful experiences. There were some remarkable cases of healing. Nine were added to the church and there are more to follow.

On Sunday night before the meeting closed on Tuesday night we observed the Lord's supper and washed the saints' feet. The Lord wonderfully blessed the service; there was shouting, dancing and talking in tongues, interpretations, etc. The saints were made to leap for joy.

The church is in good condition and the revival fire is still burning in our souls.

We are now in a battle for the Lord at East Bank, W. Va. which began March 2. We are holding services in the opera house. There is a good attendance. As this is a new place we desire that the saints shall pray much for us, that God will give victory and get glory out of this meeting.

Your brethren in the battle,
W. M. Rumler,
G. W. Wriston.

Home Mission Receipts.

Church, Fitzgerald, Ga.,	\$ 0 95
" Pell City, Ala.,	1 25
" Dividing Ridge, Tenn.,	7 25
" Campaign, Tenn.,	1 00
" McMinnville, Tenn.,	1 08
" Abbeville, Ga.,	2 20
Ora Ellard, Lewisburg, Ala.,	4 00
Mother's Meeting, McMinnville, Tenn.,	1 10
Laura Quinn, Cleveland, Tenn.,	0 25
Church, (Col.) Miami, Fla.,	2 05
E. D. Hopkins, Cullowhee, N. C.,	1 00
Church, Largo, Fla.,	0 80
Mrs. P. H. Thornton, Ca-toosa, Tenn.,	4 30
Dorothy, W. Va.,	2 36
W. A. Walker, Sweetwater, Tenn.,	1 55
Church, Alceek, Colo.,	1 40
" Helicon, Ala.,	1 75
" Sapulpa, Okla.,	3 00
S. C. Elrod, Marietta, Ga.,	0 30
I. M. Davee, Santa Fe Springs, California,	1 50
Church, Parrish, Fla.,	1 70
" Alva, Fla.,	1 50
W. M. Johnson, Coal Creek, Tenn.,	5 00
Church, Miami, Fla.,	0 52
" Chattanooga, Tenn., by Sr. Willingham	0 50
Mattie Passmore, Whittier, N. C.,	1 00
Church, Clark's Chapel, Texas,	1 75
" Empire, Ala.,	2 17
" Chillicothe, Ohio,	3 00
" Garrison, W. Va.,	2 25
" Soddy, Tenn.,	3 27

Foreign Mission Receipts.

Sunday School, Ladonia, Texas,	\$ 1.00
Church, Monarat, Va.,	0 45
Mrs. E. L. Moore, Arcadia, Fla.,	1.00
Mrs. Delia Hegler, Mt. Vernon, Texas,	1.00
Church, Toonigh, Ga.,	4.50
Mrs. Joe Mose, Vanwert, Ohio,	0 50
Church, Morgantown, Miss.,	2.20
Maggie and Vadie Creamer, Afton, Tenn.,	2.00
Church, Cleveland, Tenn.,	16.50
" Kinsers Tabernacle, Tenn.,	6.00
" Ridgedale, Tenn.,	6.45
" Corruppa, N. Mex.,	3.90
Lillian Zollicoffer, West Frankfort, Ill.,	1.50
Maud Medlin, Dublin, Miss.,	1.00

Macon, Ga.

Church of God Mission. Sunday School 9:30 a. m. Preaching 11:00 a. m., and 7:00 p. m. Tuesday and Friday 7:30 p. m., corner of Oak and 300 streets, five blocks south of Dempsey Hotel.

W. W. Rush.

Notice.

We would be glad to hear from the members of the Church of God at Hickory Point, Tenn., who have moved away, the names of whom are given below:

Eadie Lea Rockwell, Zelma Cushman, J. T. Graham, J. M. Scaggs, Lela Scaggs, Lochie Browning.

Georgie Hollis,
Clerk.

Assembly Minutes

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THE AGES

L. HOWARD JULLIERAT

According to the Scriptures we find time is divided into ages; eternity itself being expressed by the term, "The ages of the ages," translated forever and ever, an unknown number of ages multiplied by another unknown number of ages! When will they ever end?

"They (God's servants) shall reign forever and ever."

"They (devil, beast and false prophet) shall be tormented day and night forever and ever."

"And the smoke of their (beast worshipers) torment ascendeth up forever and ever."

"And her (harlot) smoke rose up forever and ever."

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever" (to the ages).

From these quotations it is evident that the ages continue without termination. Paul wrote concerning the ages in the past and also those to come together with the plan of the ages which centers around Christ and His church. What a thot!—the church being contained in the great plan of God! We as members in particular are included in His great mind! We are the CHILDREN OF ETERNITY chosen in Him before the foundation of the world and to live with Him thru the ages to come!

In Gen. 21:33 we find that God is called the Everlasting God or the God of the ages from the Hebrew "Olam" which is the same as the Greek "Aion." Many Bible students believe that this world will go on for 6000 years of toil then the 1000 years of rest or "The Millennial Age," thus fulfilling a week of time or a complete cycle. Peter says that a thousand years are as one day with the Lord and one day as a thousand years. It is evident that 6000 years are almost gone. One peculiarity about the Bible is the utter absence of dates and for that reason the chronology given can only be an approximation. It is also evident that a great change is being effected in almost the whole world, great upheavals, commotions and disasters. If we divide time we shall see that every one ended or will end in disaster—a sort of earring down the old to build or make way for the new or coming one.

So we shall call the first age that of Innocency. Man lived in happy communion with God, no trouble of any kind, no worry, no sickness or death. What a wonderful time it was! All his environments were favorable, yet when tempted he yielded and fell from his high estate. The curtain goes down on the first age with man driven from the Garden and a flaming sword to keep the way of the tree of life. Gen. 3:24.

Second: The Age of Conscience, so named because man having knowledge of good and evil, his conscience bearing witness and his thots accused or excused him. But man failed in this trial for we find the record summed up in these few words: "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thots of his heart was only evil continually." A sad account of a lost and almost unknown period of civilization. Cain's posterity seemed to dominate the world and it was visited with the flood, only eight persons emerging to form the nucleus of a new age.

Third: The Age of Human Government begins; for God

told Noah, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed." God promised that He would not again destroy all flesh by the waters of a flood. We sometimes hear people say that before the end of time, the seasons can't be told except by the falling of the leaves; but God told Noah, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter and day and night shall not cease."

As we study Noah's posterity we see that Nimrod rises into prominence and began to be a mighty one in the earth. His name means rebellious. He founded Babel or Babylon and the Arabs say he was the first king. His ambitions seemed to fire his brain; we find him and his men planning to build a tower whose top may reach to heaven and last forever. We see the hand of Satan behind this enterprise, for the word "Shem" means "name" and from Shem the Messiah came whose NAME is above every name. Glory to God! So Nimrod tried to "make us a name;" the rebellious God-defiant spirit crept out and tried to exalt itself above everything else. God saw it and said: "And now nothing will be restrained from them which they have imagined to do," so He confounded their language and the result was confusion. Babel now means "confusion" instead of "The Gate of God" as Nimrod had planned.

Fourth: The Age of Promise. God now singles out a man in Ur of the Chaldees, he is called a Syrian in Gen. 24: 4 and 28:5. God deals with Abraham and his posterity and thru them with the other nations. His first command is one of separation; he obeys. God's promise—"I will make of thee a great nation and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed"—Abraham believed, and "there sprang even of one and him as good as dead so many as the stars of the sky in multitude and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable." His faith was tested many times, but still he believed God's promise and it was accounted unto him for righteousness.

We follow his posterity into Egypt and when their cry for deliverance from bondage reaches God He has a deliverer ready, also a sacrifice. The judgments of the plagues resulted in the overthrow of Egypt's army and deliverance of God's people. This was a triumph of Jehovah over the gods of Egypt. 600,000 men went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt and there was NOT ONE FEEBLE PERSON AMONG THEIR TRIBES! Glory! Not a hoof left behind! No wonder Moses and his people sang! Not strange that Miriam and the women went out with timbrels and dances! This song is yet to be sung by those who get the victory over the beast. (Rev. 15:) Israel delivered—a type of our deliverance!

Before long they come to Sinai, unto the mount that burned with fire unto blackness and darkness and tempest and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words. There they received the Law and we come to the fifth age or Dispensation of Law. They are given the Decalogue, various religious ordinances and civil judgments. At this time all the people said together: "All that the Lord hath spoken we will do." Following them thru the period of the judges and kings in their own land and until the time of Christ, we see how far short they came. Steph-

en sums up their career by saying, "Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? And they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: who have received the law by the disposition of angels and have not kept it." So that age ended in the crucifixion of their Messiah and was followed by the terrible destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersion of its people until this day.

Sixth: The Dispensation of Grace—the present one. What wondrous love to man is shown in this age! The whole world is included in the Gospel plan. Multitudes have been redeemed yet the world at large is in sin. Nearly two thousand years have flown! The Master said He would return; we long for His appearing. But e'er He shall reign on earth we find prophecies of terrible disasters—wars, national and world-wide upheavals! As one has said, "Every age has a sunset," so this one has a gloomy one. Daniel says, "There shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation." Jeremiah says, "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." "Wars and rumors of wars." Don't we already see the mighty empires, kingdoms and republics at war? (1) "Famines and (2) pestilences and (3) earthquakes in divers places and (4) troubles."

1. It is admitted that the shortage of food stuffs is a grave danger at this present time. We are told to save—to economize—to be thrifty. Actual famines have occurred and will follow in the wake of this titanic struggle. Famine follows war—the red horse, then the black one.

2. Pestilence is a natural sequence to famine; terrible plagues will sweep away multitudes, scourges that will be of such magnitude the medical powers will be unable to cope with them.

3. Earthquakes are becoming more frequent; we are told that not a day passes but the seismograph at Washington records tremors of the earth's surface.

4. "Troubles"—labor troubles, race troubles, political troubles, anarchist troubles—in fact revolution or the spirit of lawlessness will prevail. Also "fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven and there shall be signs in the sun and in the moon and in the stars and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." We see the beginnings already causing great alarm. Disasters great and sudden have followed in swift succession until we wonder what great calamity will come next. Waves of crime sweeping over our cities are taxing the powers of police and detectives.

The Jews—God's people—figure prominently in the close of the age; they are restored to their ancient home. The passing of Jerusalem from the Turks to Great Britain is full of significance, as they have in mind the restoration of that land to the Jews. They will go back in unbelief, make a covenant with Anti-Christ, but when he demands worship they rebel and he gathers all nations against Jerusalem to battle and the city shall be taken and the houses rifled and the women ravished and half of the city shall go forth into captivity and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the Lord go

forth and fight against those nations as when He fought in the day of battle. "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron." And the Lord shall be king over all the earth!

Thus we see the awful picture of the end of this age and the blessedness of the next or Millennial Age with Jesus as king. This glorious era is described by the prophets in glowing terms. Isaiah says, "Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down." Jerusalem which means "vision or possession of peace" is said to have been taken seventeen times by a conquering foe—a scene of war instead of peace. We also read that the "wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox * * * for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Praise God!

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart and the tongue of the dumb sing. And it shall come to pass that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

Beloved, there are wonderful things ahead! "Now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

Goldsboro, N. C.

Dear Brethren and Sisters in Christ:

At the age of eighteen years I joined myself to the Freewill Baptist Church. I was not satisfied there so I took a part with the "Christ's Disciples" people in their meetings, also with the Methodists.

After six years of form with out the power I became an infidel for two years. I then saw the light on full salvation and plunged into the fountain of cleansing and joined the Holiness Freewill Church. I stayed there about a year then moved to the Pentecostal Holiness Church, got license and preached for them a while.

I preached clear out and was looking and waiting for the Church of God. I am satisfied now. Praise God forever! The next move I make will be to the Marriage Supper.

Praise God! He has taken me through with victory in my soul. I know as long as I am faithful to God I shall continue to talk in tongues and praise Him. I want to have the power to do those things that the Word teaches we shall do—cast out devils, heal the sick, etc. Please pray for me.

Your brother,
J. D. Woodard.

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